

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 PHNOM 04789 170600 Z

10

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 /026 W

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R 170539 Z MAY 73

FM AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1298

C O N F I D E N T I A L PHNOM PENH 4789

EXDIS

EO. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: CASC (FOA, SYLVANA), CB

SUBJ: UPI CORRESPONDENT SYLVANA FOA

REF: STATE 092492

1. WE SOUGHT IN OUR EARLIER MESSAGES ON THIS SUBJECT TO MAKE AMPLY CLEAR OUR VIEW (A) THAT THE JOURNALIST IN QUESTION HAS DEALT WITH THIS MISSION UNETHICALLY ON A NUMBER OF OCCASIONS; (B) THAT HER COVERAGE OF THE SITUATION HAS BEEN TENDENTIOUS, EXAGGERATED, AND OFTEN INACCURATE, AND (C) THAT THE GKR HAS GOOD REASON TO CONSIDER HER BOTH UNSYMPATHETIC AND DETRIMENTAL TO ITS CAUSE AND AFTER TOLERATING HER FOR WELL OVER TWO YEARS, TO EXPECT UPI TO SEND SOMEONE ELSE.

2. TO ASK THIS MISSION, OR ANYONE IN IT, TO INTERVENE ON HER BEHALF IN THE MANNER SUGGESTED REFTEL IS TO ASK FOR AN ACT OF HYPOCRISY WHICH I AM NOT PREPARED MYSELF TO PERFORM, NOR TO ASK OTHERS TO PERFORM ON MY BEHALF.

3. WE BELIEVE THAT THE UPI AND THE GKR SHOULD BE LEFT TO WORK OUT THIS QUESTION THEMSELVES. ANY INTERVENTION ON OUR PART SUCH AS YOU PROPOSE COULD BE INTERPRETED AS AN ENDORSEMENT OF THIS JOURNALIST'S CONDUCT AND REPORTING. IF YOU CONTINUE TO BELIEVE ANY INTERVENTION BY THE US GOVERNMENT IS IN OUR OVERALL CURRENT INTEREST

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PAGE 02 PHNOM 04789 170600 Z

OR IS NECESSARY TO OUR RELATIONSHIP WITH UPI, I SUGGEST
THAT THE APPROACH BE MADE THROUGH THE KHMER AMBASSADOR
IN WASHINGTON.
SWANK

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NMAFVVZCZ

*** Current Handling Restrictions *** EXDIS
*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

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